

It is possible that he may urge, by way of excuse, for what must be deemed his culpable concealment of meditated corruption, that he did not like to volunteer as a witness before the committee, or to transmit to it the name of his friend, the distinguished member of the House of Representatives, although it is not very easy to discern any just reason for his volunteering now, which would not have applied with more force at that time. But what apology can be made for this failure to discharge his sacred duty as an American Senator? More than two months after the alleged overture, my nomination to the office which I now hold, was made to

Gen. Jackson professes in his letter of the 6th of June—I quote again his words, to have always intended, should Mr. Clay come out over his own signature and deny having any knowledge of the communication made by his friends to my friends and to me, that I would give him the name of the gentleman through whom that communication came." He pretends never to have seen the Fayetteville letter; and yet the pretext of a denial under *my signature* is precisely that which had been urged by the principal editors who sustain his cause. If this be an unconcerned, it is nevertheless a most wonderful coincidence. The General never communicated to me his professed intention, but left me in entire ignorance of his generous purpose: like the overture itself it was profoundly concealed from me. There was an authorised denial from me, which went the circle of the public prints immediately after the arrival at Washington of the Fayetteville letter. In that denial my words are given. They were contained in a letter dated at Washington City on the 18th day of April last, and are correctly stated to have been "that the statement that Wm (my) friends had made such a proposition as the letter describes to the friends of Gen. Jackson was, as far as he knew or believed, utterly destitute of foundation: that he was unwilling to believe that General

The issue is fairly joined. The imputed "fence" does not comprehend single friends; the cause has body and soul; it has friends in Congress, and it ac-

I have, as your Representative, freely examined, and in my deliberate judgment, justly condemned the conduct of Gen. Jackson in some of our Indian wars. I believed, and yet believe him, to have trampled upon the Constitution of his country, and to have violated the principles of humanity—but entertaining these opinions, I did not
and could not vote for him.

I owe you, my friends and fellow citizens, many apologies for this long interruption of the festivities of the day. I hope that my desire to vindicate their honored object, and to satisfy you that he is not altogether unworthy of them, will be deemed sufficient.

LETTER FROM GEN. JACKSON

From the Nashville Republican, July 20.

TO THE PLRAC.

[illegible]

Under all the circumstances appearing at that time, I did not resist the impression that Mr. Breckinridge had apprehended me on the cautiously suggested proposition of some authorized person; and, therefore, in giving him my answer, did request him "to say to Mr. Clay and his friends," what that answer had been. Whether the communication was made to Mr. Clay and his friends I know not; this, though, I do know, that while the opinion and course of Mr. Clay as to the election, were but matters of conjecture with many at and before this time, very shortly after its operation in a place like ours, and his friends upon it became facts of the character of certainty and general knowledge. Still I have no secret, nor any I now say, that the proposal made to me was really the advice and consent of Mr. Clay, nor, as I have said, that his friends in Congress made propositions such. These are Mr. Clay's interpretations of my letter to Mr. Beveridge, and that what my letter really means. What I have stated, on the fact of a contest between myself and a member of Congress of high repute, &c., &c. The probabilities and inference drawn at Congress from the same manner, and all the circumstances, are so, my mind cannot help me.

"I repeat, then, once more, I again repeat, that, under the circumstances, I may have possibly seen Mr. Clay here. It has certainly seemed to me a reasonable probability that he had made a visit to our city, and that he would call at my resi-